

## North-West Eau Claire *Build Wisconsin* Regional Workshop Small Group Record

Small Group \_\_\_\_\_ Green \_\_\_\_\_ (color)

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Recorder-Reporter \_\_\_\_\_ Kevin Jones \_\_\_\_\_

### **Top 10 responses to the question: “What can the State do to foster economic growth in your region?”**

Priority response #1 (votes: \_8\_ )

Develop a plan to keep Wisconsin graduates.

Priority response #2 (votes: \_\_6\_ )

Evaluate economic development activities statewide for duplication and efficiency and have a clearinghouse of services.

Priority response #3 (votes: \_6\_\_ )

Attract medium and large companies with corporate offices with high paying jobs.

Priority response #4 (votes: \_3\_\_ )

Group health insurance rate for small businesses.

Priority response #5 (votes: \_\_3\_ )

High speed rail.

Priority response #6 (votes: \_\_2\_ )

Funding expansion for training of health care professionals (nursing).

Priority response #7 (votes: \_\_2\_ )

Incentive to regional cooperative initiatives, i.e. local govt. education.

Priority response #8 (votes: \_\_2\_ )

Expand high speed Internet service.

Priority response #9 (votes: \_\_2\_ )

Better education about humanities (good for our state image).

Priority response #10 (votes: \_\_2\_ )

Use the Momentum Chippewa valley as state model.

## **“Actions Necessary to Achieve our Ideas” Exercise**

“If we want to accomplish this [priority issue #1], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

### **Priority Issue #1      Develop a plan to keep Wisconsin graduates**

Responses to the question: “If we want to accomplish this [priority issue], what does “the State” (as defined earlier) have to do now?”

1. Match educational program offerings with current and future jobs in WI
2. Amenities (recreational, cultural, social) to appeal to “20-somethings” – survey students
3. Reimburse tuition to grads if they stay in Wisconsin and work on field of study.
4. Provide incentives to students, employers, educational institutions to develop new internship/co-op relationships between education and private sector.
5. Marketing to promote Wisconsin’s image as a “cool “ place to live.
6. Create entrepreneurial opportunities for students at post-secondary institutions (i.e. Stout incubator)
7. Develop affordable starter housing and child care
8. Increase capacity at schools to meet demand for in-state jobs ... e.g. health care
9. Survey other states to find best practices to retain grads.

### **Priority Issue #2      Evaluate economic development activities statewide for duplication and efficiency and have a clearinghouse of services**

1. Independent review of economic development services by state agencies, i.e. Commerce, WHEDA, UW, DATCAP, DWD, ... to eliminate duplication and increase efficiency.
2. Upon completion of #1 above, develop clearinghouse of services.